

he served as regional vice president until 1987.

In 1987, Steve began his long career serving in the electric utility sector as he took the helm of Cullman Electric Cooperative in Cullman, Alabama. He served as the general manager there for over a decade.

In 1998, he began his long and highly successful career as president and CEO of Tombigbee Electric. In 2017, under his leadership and foresight, Steve led the effort in Tombigbee offering high speed internet services and created Tombigbee Communications. It was there that Steve took on double duty, also serving as its president and CEO.

Under Steve's guidance, Tombigbee Communications has truly become a regional and national leader in providing reliable, high-speed internet to thousands of rural homes under the name of Freedom Fiber. One of their slogans is, "speeds so fast, even big cities are jealous." This is all because of the great leadership and vision Steve Foshee had for providing this service to people, who for decades, have been cut off from service.

Steve has been married to his wife, Libby, for more than 40 years. They have two adult children, Josh and Caleb Foshee and two grandsons, Luke and Jack Foshee.

Again, I congratulate, as well as honor, Steve Foshee on his career and his leadership in the State of Alabama that has had such a positive impact on so many people. I wish him and his family all the best in his retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DR. DANIEL HOLSENBECK

#### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 17, 2023*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding life and legacy of Dr. Daniel Holsenbeck, age 80, who passed away on December 5, 2022. Dr. Holsenbeck, who was widely known as "Dr. Dan" was senior vice president emeritus at the University of Central Florida (UCF), where he worked for over 35 years. Dr. Dan touched the lives of countless individuals and left a lasting impression on the Central Florida community.

Dr. Holsenbeck helped to foster deep relationships across the Central Florida community and across the State of Florida that propelled the university's rise in quality and reputation. He helped shape many of the big ideas that have transformed UCF into the place it is today, including championing the region's modeling and simulation industry and UCF's partnerships with the military. He was instrumental in securing state funding for UCF's main campus, the establishment of the College of Medicine, and the creation of the downtown Orlando UCF campus. As an instructor, he loved being in the classroom with students, helping to shape future public relations and government relations professionals.

Dr. Holsenbeck reported to five UCF presidents before retiring in December 2019. His impact on UCF and throughout Central Florida will be felt for generations. In 1985, he was hired as associate vice president of government relations. He was promoted to vice president in 1993 and senior vice president in 2014. He served as senior counsel to the

president in 2018 and 2019 and then was honored with the title of senior vice president emeritus.

Dr. Holsenbeck is credited for establishing the UCF Legislative Scholars program, which has been described as the "best program" of its kind in Florida's State Capitol. Created 19 years ago, the program enables students to augment their academic learning by working full time in legislators' offices during the annual Florida legislative session. Since the program's inception, 220 scholars have learned the "ins and outs" of Florida's legislative and public policy-making arena, learning directly from legislative staff, governmental agencies, and lobbying groups while gaining valuable governmental experience.

Dr. Holsenbeck also served UCF presidents in numerous public relations and advisory capacities, including managing University Economic Development and Defense Transition Services. A former captain in the U.S. Naval Reserve, the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division named a Navy jet in his honor, in recognition of his dedication to growing the Modeling, Simulation and Training community.

Dr. Holsenbeck was director of basic enlisted mathematics for the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power School from 1967 through 1969. He served as the principal civilian advisor on college and university teaching and testing for the Chief of Naval Education and Training in Pensacola, Florida. In that capacity, he conducted teaching seminars for all NROTC Navy and Marine instructors from 1971 to 1998. As a drilling reservist, he held four commands in Orlando and Montgomery, Alabama.

Dr. Holsenbeck earned a Bachelor's in mathematics, with honors, from Auburn University, a Master's in education from Johns Hopkins University, and a Doctorate in higher education management systems from Florida State University. UCF awarded Dr. Holsenbeck an honorary Doctorate degree in 2019 in recognition of his distinguished service to the university and Central Florida, as well as the military.

Before coming to UCF, Dr. Holsenbeck was associate vice president for development and alumni affairs at the University of South Florida, the director of university relations at Auburn University, and vice chancellor for development at Auburn University at Montgomery.

Dr. Holsenbeck greatly appreciated the important role nonprofit organizations play in the community and volunteered his time generously on several boards. The Kids House of Seminole County was especially important to him for its dedication to prevent child abuse and provide support for child abuse victims and their families.

He was active in local and national civic and professional organizations, including the Central Florida Partnership, the Economic Development Commission of Mid-Florida, the board of directors of Visit Orlando, the Orange County R&D Authority (chairman, 1999 to 2000) and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Dr. Dan served on the CASE National Board of Trustees and was chairman of CASE's National Commission on Government Relations. He was chairman of the CASE National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges and American Association of State Colleges and Universities Task Force on State Relations from 1996 to 1997. In 1999, Dr. Holsenbeck received the

highest national recognition for his state relations activities, the Swede Johnson Award sponsored by CASE, NASULGC and AASCU. He has served on the Boards of Kids House of Seminole, Work Force Central Florida, the UCF Foundation, the National Center for Simulation, the UCF Alumni Association, and the Board of Visitors for the FAMU College of Law.

Dr. Holsenbeck was blessed with a loving family whom he adored and admired. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Joyce Clappitt, a former UCF administrator, and his daughter, Amy Clappitt-Holsenbeck, a board-certified physician assistant and pediatric health specialist. He was preceded in death by his son Alan Clappitt-Holsenbeck.

Dr. Holsenbeck leaves behind a legacy of kindness, generosity, and inspiration. Dr. Dan's positive outlook on life touched the lives of so many and made our community a better place. I am saddened by the loss of such a valuable member of the community and extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

#### HONORING THE HEROISM OF CAPTAIN E. ROYCE WILLIAMS, USN (RET.) OF ESCONDIDO

#### HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 17, 2023*

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2023, the Secretary of the U.S. Navy will present Escondido, California resident and retired Navy Captain E. Royce Williams the Navy Cross—an appropriate recognition and award upgrade that was more than 70 years in the making. On November 18, 1952, Williams engaged and won the greatest overwater aerial dogfight ever—although for decades, it was officially declared by the Pentagon as having never happened.

Fortunately, the incredible story of Royce Williams is now being told—and the Forgotten Hero of the Forgotten War is forgotten no longer. This is history every American should know.

On that day in 1952, Captain Williams and 3 additional American pilots—flying the F9F-5 Panther—engaged 7 Soviet MiGs in a fierce dogfight over the Sea of Japan and the coast of North Korea. During the combat, 2 of the American planes were forced to disengage due to mechanical failures while the other pursued Williams' first downed enemy plane. Opting not to turn away and inevitably endanger his fellow pilots and the entire crew of his carrier, Williams instead turned and faced the remaining 6 Soviet aircraft alone.

Against all but impossible odds, and because of his skill, daring, and indomitable courage, only 2 MiGs returned to base. Williams shot down the others.

The stakes could not have been higher. If Williams had not prevailed, his fellow pilots and the sailors aboard his carrier could have been lost and the history of the Korean War and even the Cold War would be very different.

His plane sustained 263 holes and a foot-long gash—but the only injury Williams sustained was a bloody neck chafed by his gear.

He piloted his heavily damaged plane and returned to the carrier USS *Oriskany*, where, unable to slow his descent, he landed dead center of the runway but at 170 knots and miraculously engaged the number 3 wire.

Because of the implications of a “hot” engagement in 1952 between the United States and the Soviet Union, official records credited Williams with only a single kill, 1 damaged enemy, and he was awarded the Silver Star. The true account of his actions was classified, and Williams was asked—and agreed—to alter his story for the public and keep the true account secret.

Convinced this was a story that needed to be told, Operation Just Reward was formed by Royce Williams’ determined friends and fellow pilots: Doniphan B. Shelton, RADM, USN (Ret.), Greg “Chaser” Keithley, Peter Rolf Ohnstad, Tammy Sande, Ed “Dragon” Riley, Kim A. Merrill, Chuck Sweeney, Steve Lewandowski, Chris Yates, and Howard Darter. I am honored to have been invited to join this campaign on behalf of history’s true account of America’s true Top Gun—and for Royce Williams to gain this recognition that he has not sought, but so richly deserves.

HOMETOWN HERO—TOM LANDIS

**HON. BETH VAN DUYNE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 17, 2023*

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Landis, the founder of Howdy Homemade Ice Cream in Dallas, Texas. Howdy Homemade was founded with the idea to create more jobs for individuals with special needs by uniting with delicious ice cream.

Howdy Homemade was created in Dallas, Texas in December of 2015. Tom founded his business with the purpose of giving the special needs communities meaningful employment opportunities in a positive environment. Tom gives people with intellectual or developmental disabilities confidence, structure, and a sense of pride by working at Howdy Homemade. Tom has since created over 168 jobs throughout the U.S. and is consistently giving individuals with special needs an outstanding employment opportunity in a reinforcing environment.

I commend Tom for going above and beyond for our community. His selflessness and dedication do not go unnoticed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION REAL ESTATE LEASING AUTHORITY REVOCATION ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 17, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Securities and Exchange Commission Real Estate Leasing Authority Revocation Act, which would revoke the real estate leasing

authority of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and direct the Government Accountability Office to update its 2016 report on independent leasing authority in the federal government. The House passed this bill last Congress.

Since the SEC was granted leasing authority in 1990, before I came to Congress, the SEC has consistently stumbled through leasing mistakes at great expense to taxpayers. It is time for Congress to end this fiasco and return the leasing authority to the General Services Administration (GSA), the federal government’s real estate arm, like other federal agencies.

When Congress exempted the SEC from GSA regulations and directives in 1990, it expressed its clear intent that “the authority granted to the Commission to lease its own office space directly will be exercised vigorously by the Commission to achieve actual cost savings and to increase the Commission’s productivity and efficiency.” (H.R. Conf. Rep. 101–924.) Over the past 30 years, none of that has come to fruition.

The SEC did not even establish a Leasing Branch until April 2009, and did not put into place any leasing policies or procedures until August 2010. Before that, in May 2005, the SEC disclosed that it had identified unbudgeted costs of approximately \$48 million attributable to misestimates and omissions of costs associated with the construction of its headquarters near Union Station. In 2007, after moving into its headquarters, the SEC shuffled its employees to different office spaces at a cost of over \$3 million without any cost-benefit analysis or justifiable rationale.

In the summer of 2010, the SEC’s Office of Administrative Services (OAS) conducted a deeply flawed and unsound analysis to justify the need for the SEC to lease 900,000 square feet of space at Constitution Center and to commit over \$500 million over 10 years, overestimating the amount of space needed by over 300 percent. In addition to this gross overestimation of space, OAS failed to provide complete and accurate information and prepared a faulty and backdated Justification and Approval after it had already signed the lease.

As a former chair and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management, I was deeply involved in oversight of the SEC’s real estate activities in the District of Columbia after the agency engaged in this improper sole-source procurement of nearly one million square feet of leased space. We held two hearings on this subject in 2011. At the first hearing, titled “The Security and Exchange Commission’s \$500 Million Fleecing of America,” SEC Inspector General H. David Kotz testified that employees ignored the SEC chair’s explicit instructions and engaged in possible criminal violations in a sole-source procurement. He also supported stripping the SEC of leasing authority if the SEC did not undertake major reforms. I agreed with Inspector General Katz’s evaluation and introduced legislation to revoke the SEC’s leasing authority for the first time.

At the second hearing, titled “The Security and Exchange Commission’s \$500 Million Fleecing of America: Part Two,” SEC Chairwoman Mary L. Schapiro testified that “the SEC recognizes the benefits of having [GSA]

manage the Commission’s future lease acquisitions. Leasing is not part of the Commission’s core mission and we cannot allow it to impede that mission.” She then explained that the SEC would pare down its leasing program “solely to liaise with GSA.” This arrangement, in which GSA manages SEC leasing activities, was memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding between GSA and the SEC on August 1, 2011.

Today, I have concerns that the SEC is going back on the commitment it made to Congress, which is why I am reintroducing this bill. In August 2016, GSA and the SEC entered into an Occupancy Agreement to authorize GSA to conduct the process for a new 15-year lease. In December 2016, GSA, with the approval of the SEC, submitted a prospectus to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for approximately 1,274,000 rentable square feet for the SEC. Congress approved this prospectus in 2018, and by July 2019, GSA had received final bids, resolved all protests and even selected a final bidder. A month later, in August 2019, the SEC canceled the Occupancy Agreement with GSA, citing concerns about the value of the purchase option that was part of the lease, concerns the SEC refused to document to Congress. The SEC effectively vetoed the entire procurement process despite not having the authority or funding mechanism to exercise the purchase option without GSA’s involvement. After a few more months of impasse, the SEC requested that GSA cancel the procurement and commence a new procurement process.

Finally, after much back and forth between the two agencies, GSA entered into a lease for a new SEC headquarters in September 2021. The SEC says it will continue to have GSA do its leasing in the future, but the SEC’s history of egregious leasing conduct, having squandered hundreds of millions of dollars, makes this bill still necessary.

These public blunders also risk undermining the reputation of GSA and the federal government among developers and building owners that participate in these lease procurements and ultimately driving up the costs of all GSA real estate procurements due to the threat of uncertainty. This also means that the SEC will continue to engage in short-term leases at a premium while the procurement process plays out again, instead of quickly transitioning to a more cost-effective long-term lease as planned. Congress created this confusion by granting the SEC leasing authority, and now Congress must fix it by revoking that authority.

The SEC’s mission is to protect investors; maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets; and facilitate capital formation. GSA’s mission is to provide other civilian federal agencies with workspace and furnishings at best value to the taxpayer. As the SEC has demonstrated over three decades, it is incredibly inefficient, wasteful and redundant to have the SEC involved in the nuances of real estate decisions when GSA exists for that very reason. Like other federal agencies, the SEC would continue to have input and involvement in the decision-making process, but the ultimate real estate authority would lie with GSA, where it belongs.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.